

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 193749
ORIGIN NEA-10

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP: JJZIOLKOWSKI:KD
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-----038671 020231Z /64
R 012011Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DOHA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA, BEXP, EFIN QU

SUBJECT: CONTINENTAL BANK OF ILLINOIS VISIT TO QATAR

1. DURING AMBASSADOR KILLGORE'S CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON, HE MET WITH OFFICIALS OF CONTINENTAL ILLINOIS NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO WHO DISCUSSED THEIR PLANS FOR MIDDLE EAST TRIP IN MID-SEPTEMBER. BANK DELEGATION CONSISTING OF CHAIRMAN, ROGER ANDERSON; VP FOR ME AND AFRICA, CHARLES O'HARA AND VP FOR ME, FREDERICK SINKER INTEND TO SPEND APPROX. ONE WEEK IN AREA USING DOHA AS BASE OF OPERATIONS AND VISITING FOUR OR FIVE CITIES IN GULF/PENINSULA REGION. GROUP WILL BE STAYING AT GULF HOTEL SEPT. 8 THROUGH 14 AND WILL TRAVEL IN PRIVATE AIRCRAFT.

2. GROUP WOULD LIKE TO SPEND SEPT. 12 RPT 12 IN DOHA CALLING ON OFFICIALS THERE AND HAS ASKED IF EMBASSY COULD ASSIST IN MAKING APPOINTMENTS. FOLLOWING ARE CALLS WHICH ANDERSON ET AL WOULD LIKE TO MAKE: COURTESY CALL ON AMIR; APPOINTMENT WITH MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PETROLEUM, SHAIKH ABDULAZIZ; APPOINTMENTS WITH
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PAGE 02 STATE 193749

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, ADULKADER AL-QADI AND CHAIRMAN OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL CENTER, SAID MISHAL. GROUP WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HOST LUNCHEON ON SEPT. 12 FOR OFFICIALS AND DIRECTORS OF QATAR NATIONAL BANK, MEMBERS

OF CURRENCY BOARD AND OTHER APPROPRIATE GOQ OFFICIALS OR PRIVATE BUSINESSMEN.

3. MAIN PURPOSE OF VISIT WILL BE TO GENERATE MORE BUSINESS FOR CONTINENTAL BANK WITH GOQ AND QATAR 'PRIVATE SECTOR. SHOULD SOMEONE FROM QATAR SIDE OFFER TO HOST SOCIAL FUNCTION, GROUP WOULD, OF COURSE, BE PLEASED TO ACCEPT.

4. AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED THAT IF APPOINTMENT WITH AMIR COULD BE NAILED DOWN FIRST, OTHER APPOINTMENTS WOULD BE EASIER TO GET. REQUEST EMBASSY EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES OF SCHEDULING MEETINGS WITH AMIR AND SHAIKH ABDULAZIZ ON SEPT. 12 AND ADVISE DEPARTMENT (SLUG FOR NEA/ARP.) CONTINENTAL OFFICIALS ARE AWARE OF GENERAL DIFFICULTIES IN SCHEDULING THIS KIND OF APPOINTMENT AS WELL AS PARTICULAR PROBLEMS RELATED TO RAMADAN. VANCE

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